connected with a television set and a communication network is handled as a terminal device for the local area server.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 6, to read as follows:

A preferable construction is as follows as the information delivery system. That is, it is desirable that the information delivery system is constructed as being arranged in each home, being connected with a plurality of terminal devices such as television sets and personal computers, and receives plural kinds of stream data transmitted through the digital broadcasting network and the communication network and sends it to each terminal device. Plural kinds of stream data includes video stream (VS) from video on demand (VOD) system which uses the communication network etc. besides said digital broadcasting stream (BS).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 19, to read as follows:

In such a system, the user arbitrarily selects information (program and title, etc.) which he/she wants to attend from among broadcasting stream (BS) and video stream (VS) to be able to reproduce the information on the display of the terminal device.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 11, to read as follows:

There is a possibility that a similar state is generated in case the user first attends the stream of VOD. To prevent such a state, the stream not selected by the user is monitored as a background, and when the attention priority of the user changes, a method of switching the stream of the selected attention and the background stream is proposed. Here, the data transmission band (sending band to the terminal device) is usually limited in the system like the local area network which includes said local area server. This data transmission band (or, only called "band") means an amount of the transmission data per unit time (bps: bits per second).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 11, to read as follows:

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS\*\*LC
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

With such a system configuration, the user comes to be able to attend stream data on the program with high attention priority selectively from among broadcasting stream data and stream data from the VOD system. In this case, the transmission band of selected stream data is adjusted within the range of the limitation of the transmission band allocated to the terminal device. Therefore, even when there is no room in the transmission band for the terminal device, the transmission band of selected stream data is adjusted automatically, and selected stream data is transmitted to the terminal device. The user does not operate the band setting of stream data when there is room in the transmission band for the terminal device, and the stream data with the high picture quality can be transmitted to the terminal device automatically for example.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 10, to read as follows:

The stream distribution server 2 has the plurality of reception means to connect with each of the broadcasting network and the communication network, and can receive plural kinds of the stream data in the lump at the same time. The stream distribution server 2 mixes received stream data, selects partial stream data (according to the packet unit described later) based on a fixed distribution condition (request from terminal device 3). To achieve such a function, the stream distribution server 2 has each element of a stream output control section 10 and a stream manager 11 as shown in FIG. 2.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 22, to read as follows:

The stream multiplexer-demultiplexer 20 receives the video stream data VS from the wide area network communication section 23 and the broadcasting stream data BS from the broadcasting receiver 24 in the lump and joins (mixes) them. In addition, the stream multiplexer-demultiplexer 20 extracts a packet data, which corresponds to the attention request from each terminal device 3, from the stream data to redistribute it to each terminal device 3 again. The local area network manager 21 monitors the use state of the local area network, and

B5

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLC</sup>
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

BS

allocates the band to each terminal device 3 within the predetermined range of the limitation value. Therefore, the band allocated in each terminal device 3 will change according to the use state of the local area network.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 14, to read as follows:

Here, a method of acquiring program information (guide information of contents which are to be attended in the terminal device 3 will be explained). The stream distribution server 2 regularly extracts the program information multiplexed in the received broadcasting stream BS, and stores it into the file device 4. Here, an EPG (Electronic Program Guide) information is assumed as a concrete example of the program information. And, the stream distribution server 2 transmits the stored EPG information to the terminal device 3 according to the request from the terminal device 3. In this case, the stream distribution server 2 may create the menu which combines program schedules with GUI for the control by processing EPG information, and present on the display of the terminal device 3.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 13, to read as follows:

On the other hand, the stream filter 26 adjusts the transmission band of the stream data within the range of the allocated band to the terminal device 3 as mentioned above when there is no room in the band for which the local area network can be used (that is, the amount of the stream of the transmission data is reduced). That is, by the filtering processing of the stream filter 26, the stream data within the range of the limitation band is passed, and is transmitted to the terminal device 3 (step S23). Therefore, when the attention request from the terminal device 3 is the stream data of, for example, a high band, like the HD level, the amount of data distributed by the filtering processing is reduced. Specifically, the distributing number of programs will be reduced or the information qualities of one program will be reduced. Here, the information quality means, for example, the number of frames of the display per second, the

B7

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESSPLIC
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

151

space resolutions, the distribution program numbers, and contents etc. of voice information (presence of the multi national language voice etc.).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 7, to read as follows:

As mentioned above, the stream distribution server 2 of this embodiment dynamically changes the transmission band which can be used by the filtering processing within the range of the limitation band in the local area network. Specifically, first, the stream distribution server 2 executes the distribution of the stream data according to the attention request for example for the terminal device 3. At this time, the stream distribution server 2 reduces the allocated band to the terminal device 3 by the filtering processing of the stream filter 26 as described above if the room of the band in the local area network is reduced. Therefore, the attention can be continued in the terminal device 3 even though the quality of the stream data transmitted to the terminal device 3 is deteriorated. Naturally, the quality of the stream data returns to the original ones if the room of the band in the local area network is restored.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 8, to read as follows:

The terminal device 3 notifies the stream distribution server 2 the recording request to record the program stream data on attending (YES in step S25). The stream distribution server 23 generates the stream branch from the stream multiplexer-demultiplexer 20, and executes the file output processing (step S26). That is, the local area network manager 21, which receives the recording request, controls the multiplexer-demultiplexer 20, and the file I/O section 25, and stores the stream data to be recorded in the file device 4 as shown in FIG. 4. When the stream distribution server 2 receives the recording reservation request from the terminal device 3, the recording reservation setting is performed to the content information manager 27. A recording starting matter is notified from the content manager 27 to the local area network manager 21 when it comes to the broadcasting starting time of the program so that the recording



LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS<sup>PLLC</sup>
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

B8

reservation is performed. And, the local area network manager 21 performs the same processing as a usual recording.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 24, to read as follows:

In addition, as another concrete example, when the attention of the program including the image at the HD level has been reserved from a certain terminal device 3, consider the case that the room of the band of the local area network is small at starting broadcasting of the program. The stream distribution server 2 converts the stream data into the image at the SD level by the filtering processing of the stream filter 26 and distributes to the terminal device 3 when judging that the transmission of the image at HD level is difficult. At this time, the stream distribution server 2 temporarily stores the image at the HD level in the file device 4, and notifies the terminal device 3 a predetermined message. The message includes, for example, "the quality of the program under the distribution is adjusted because of the band limitation of the local area network", and "an original program at the HD level is being recorded simultaneously" etc. Here, when the recording request is regularly received from the terminal device 3, the stream distribution server 2 manages storing the image at the HD level temporarily stored in the file device 4. On the other hand, the image temporarily stored in the file device 4 may be automatically erased when there is no regular recording request even if regulated time passes.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10 as follows, cancel Claims 3, 4, 7-9, and 11-16 without prejudice, and add new Claims 17-50 as shown below:

1. (Twice Amended) A system for distributing stream data after executing a predetermined processing of the stream data from an external network, comprising:

a receptor which receives the stream data transmitted through a broadcasting network;

BVO

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESSFLLC
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800

Seattle, Washington 98101 206.682.8100